STANDARD SHELTER/UTILITY EXPENSE DEDUCTION

Standard shelter/utility deduction: In order to quality for this deduction, the household must incur, on a monthly basis, at least one allowable shelter/utility expense. Only the following expenses are allowable shelter expenses:

	Type of Shelter/Utility Expense Paid by Household	Type of Documentation Verification Provided
1.	Continuing charges for the shelter occupied by the household, including rent, mortgage, condo and association fees, or other continuing charges leading to the ownership of the shelter such as loan repayments for the purchase of a mobile home, including interest on such payments.	
2.	Property taxes, State and local assessments, and insurance on the structure itself, but not separate costs for insuring furniture or personal belongings.	
3.	The cost of fuel for heating; cooling; electricity or fuel used for purposes other than heating or cooling; water; sewerage; well installation and maintenance; septic tank system installation and maintenance; garbage and trash collection; all service fees required to provide service for one telephone; and fees charged by the utility provider for initial installation of the utility. One-time deposits cannot be included.	
4.	The shelter costs for the home if temporarily not occupied by the household because of employment or training away from home, illness, or abandonment caused by a natural disaster or casualty loss. For costs of a home vacated by the household to be included in the household's shelter costs, the household must intend to return to the home; the current occupants of the home, if any, must not be claiming the shelter costs for FDPIR or SNAP purposes; and the home must not be leased or rented during the absence of the household.	
5.	Charges for the repair of the home which was substantially damaged or destroyed due to a natural disaster, such as a fire or flood. Shelter costs shall not include charges for repair of the home that have been or will be reimbursed by private or public relief agencies, insurance companies, or from any other source.	